

What is claimed is:

1. A portable vise comprising:
a base having at least one pair of converging engaging surfaces;
a clamp positionable over said base, said clamp having a screw member, a jaw, and a yoke interconnecting the jaw to the screw, said clamp further having a pair of opposing guide channels formed therein for slidably receiving said yoke.
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2. A vise, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said jaw includes a flange and a curved engaging surface integral with said flange.
3. A vise, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said yoke includes a pair of extensions, each extension of said pair of extensions being slidably received in a corresponding channel of said pair of opposing guide channels.
4. A vise, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said yoke has a cavity formed therein for receiving a portion of said screw member and a portion of said jaw.
5. A vise, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said screw member has a first threaded portion and a second nonthreaded portion.
6. A vise, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said clamp includes a threaded opening for threadably receiving said screw member.
7. A vise, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said base has three pairs of converging engaging surfaces including two pairs of engaging surfaces arranged back to back, and a third pair of engaging surfaces arranged orthogonally with

respect to said two pairs.

8. A vise, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said base includes at least one pair of slots formed adjacent said at least one pair of converging engaging surfaces for receiving said clamp.

9. A vise, as claimed in Claim 8, wherein:

said clamp has a pair of legs, and a fork formed at a distal end of each leg, said forks being slidably engageable with said at least one pair of slots.

10. A portable vise comprising:

a base having at least one pair of converging engaging surfaces;

a clamp positionable over said base, said clamp having means for applying pressure to a workpiece, a jaw, and means for interconnecting said jaw and said means for applying pressure, said means for interconnecting having a cavity formed therein enabling shifting of said jaw with respect to said means for applying pressure, said clamp further including a pair of opposing guide channels formed therein for slidably receiving said means for interconnecting.

11. A vise, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein:

said jaw includes a flange and a curved engaging surface integral with said flange.

12. A vise, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein:

said means for interconnecting includes a pair of extensions, each extension of said pair of extensions being slidably received in a corresponding channel of said pair of opposing guide channels.

13. A vise, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein:

said means for interconnecting has a cavity formed therein for receiving a portion of said means for applying pressure and a portion of said jaw.

14. A vise, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein:

said means for applying pressure has a first threaded portion and a second nonthreaded portion.

15. A vise, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein:

said base has three pairs of converging engaging surfaces including two pairs of engaging surfaces arranged back to back, and a third pair of engaging surfaces arranged orthogonally with respect to said two pairs.

16. A vise, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein:

said base includes at least one pair of slots formed adjacent to said at least one pair of converging engaging surfaces for receiving said clamp.

17. A method of securing a workpiece comprising the steps of:

providing a portable vise including a base, said base including at least a pair of converging engaging surfaces;

providing a clamp mounted over the base;

5 mounting the workpiece to rest against the converging engaging surfaces;

manipulating a threaded screw integral with the clamp to simultaneously move a jaw to apply pressure against the workpiece;

maintaining alignment of the screw as it is moved by a yoke communicating with the clamp; and

10 shifting the jaw in relation to the yoke as the jaw contacts the workpiece in order to cause

the jaw to make aligned contact with the workpiece.